

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/616,475

Examiner

Christopher Verdier

Applicant(s)

PEARCE, RICHARD A.

Art Unit

3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10-7-03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dorian B. Kennedy, Attorney of Record, on November 2, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 2, line 1, "fan" has been changed to -- fans --.

On page 3, line 1, "mean" has been changed to -- means --.

In the Claims:

In claim 1, line 6, -- each -- has been inserted after "channels".

In claim 1, line 6, "a" (second occurrence) has been changed to -- an --.

In claim 1, line 14, "mean" has been changed to -- biasing means --.

In claim 1, line 16, "stops prevent" has been changed to -- stop prevents --.

In claim 5, line 3, "on" has been changed to -- one --.

In claim 6, second to last line, "said" has been changed to -- the --.

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In claim 6, last line, "said" has been changed to -- the --.

In claim 6, last line, "inbound" has been changed to -- inboard --.

In claim 10, line 2, "biasing means" has been deleted.

In claim 11, line 1, "10" has been changed to -- 8 --.

In claim 11, line 2, "biasing means" has been deleted.

In claim 13, line 3, "on" has been changed to -- one --.

The above changes to the specification have been made to correct clerical errors. The above changes to the claims have been made to correct clerical errors, and to improve the clarity and precision of the claims.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant application is directed towards an unobvious improvement over the invention patented in U.S. Patent 5,954,449 (figures 4-6). U.S. Patent 5,954,449 discloses a quick connect ceiling fan blade iron 40 substantially as claimed, with a post 30 having a head 33 and a stem 32 extending from the head, and a motor mounting flange 41, with motor mounting flange having an unnumbered peripheral wall near 41, and a channel 43 having a peripheral portion extending through the peripheral wall with a width larger than the head. The improvement comprises an abutment wall extending from the peripheral wall, with the channel having an inboard portion extending through the abutment wall having a width smaller than said head, such that the blade iron may be moved in one direction to allow the passage of the post head through the flange channel

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peripheral portion and into a position wherein the stem is positioned within the inboard portion.

None of the prior art of record discloses the improvement.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lee is cited to show a ceiling fan blade iron with a flange.

Collmar is cited to show a ceiling fan blade iron with a channel.

Chen is cited to show a ceiling fan blade iron with a dovetail mount and a flange, and a spring mount.

Blateri is cited to show a ceiling fan blade iron with a flange and a spring mount.

Tang is cited to show a ceiling fan blade iron with mounting holes.

Marshall is cited to show a ceiling fan blade iron with adjustable mounting holes.

Pearce is cited to show a quick connect blade system with the same disclosure as the instant application; no double patenting exists therebetween.

Lam is cited to show a ceiling fan blade iron with grooves.

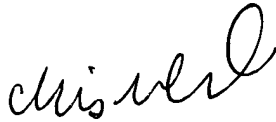
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Verdier whose telephone number is (703)-308-2638. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward K. Look can be reached on (703) 308-1044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C.V.
November 2, 2004


Christopher Verdier
Primary Examiner
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